

ALARM MONITOR MODEL AM-255

OPERATING AND SERVICE MANUAL

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AM-255

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. INTRODUCTION	1
1.1. SCOPE AND PURPOSE OF MANUAL	1
1.2. GENERAL DESCRIPTION	1
1.3. SAFETY PRECAUTIONS	1
1.4. SPECIFICATIONS	2
2. INSPECTION AND SETUP	3
2.1. INSPECTION	3
2.2. SET-UP PROCEDURES	4
2.3. WIRING INSTRUCTIONS	5
2.4. INITIAL SETUP CHECKLIST	8
3. OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS	9
3.1. CONTROLS AND INDICATORS	9
3.2. SUMMARY OF ALARM INDICATIONS	10
3.3. OPERATION	11
4. THEORY OF OPERATION	12
4.1. UNIT OPERATION	12
4.2. COMPONENTS	13
5. MAINTENANCE	14
5.1. MAINTENANCE PROCEDURES	14
5.2. PERFORMANCE VERIFICATION CHECKLIST	15
6. TROUBLESHOOTING	16
6.1. COMPONENT ACCESS	16
6.2. TROUBLESHOOTING GUIDE	17
6.3. TROUBLESHOOTING	

APPENDIX	19
A. WARRANTY	19
B. GLOSSARY	20
C. FORMULAS	
C.1. ACTIVITY FROM COUNTS	
C.2. EFFICIENCY	
C.3. N*SIGMA ALARM LEVEL	
C.4. RELIABLE DETECTABLE ACTIVITY (RDA) FORMULA	23
C.5. SIGNAL TO BACKGROUND RATIO	23
C.6. VARIANCE	24
D. CONFIGURATION TRACKING SHEET	25
E. PARTS	
E.1. RECOMMENDED SPARE PARTS	
E.2. SPARE PARTS ORDERING INFORMATION	
F. DRAWINGS	

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. SCOPE AND PURPOSE OF MANUAL

This manual is designed to enable operating and service personnel to properly operate and care for the AM-255. Since applications are necessarily site-specific, operation procedures are given in general terms. Service and repair are covered to the board level. Anything more complex than this requires that the instrument or assembly be returned to TSA.

1.2. GENERAL DESCRIPTION

The TSA Model AM-255 Alarm Monitor is a self-contained unit designed for use with TSA's personnel and vehicle portal monitors. The AM-255 provides both audible and visual alarm indication for radiation level, high and low background, low power and tamper conditions. In addition, output relays are provided to integrate the AM-255 into existing alarm systems.

The AM-255 is a dual input instrument, which will monitor two sets of pillars, or two master pillars. It has two complete sets of front panel lamps, as well as two input and two output connectors. The two systems are totally independent.

1.3. SAFETY PRECAUTIONS

WARNINGS:

The AM-255 uses 90 to 250Vac for the battery charger. Service should only be performed by qualified technical personnel.

The maximum voltage and current being switched by the relays must not exceed 0.6 amp at 120Vac.

CAUTIONS:

As with any sensitive electronic instrument, the AM-255 should not be dropped or subjected to severe mechanical shock.

1.4. SPECIFICATIONS

Display:	4 alarm indicator LEDs per pillar being monitored;			
	One systems ready LED, one power on LED			
Power:	Internal: 12 volt, 7Ah sealed lead-acid battery pack			
Relay Power:	Maximum 0.6 amp at 120Vac			
Battery life:	More than 24 hours of normal operation			
Controls:	Momentary contact alarm acknowledge switch, key lock switch, and lamp test switch			
Connectors:				
Input:	One 4 pin, quick connect type terminal strip per system			
Output:	One 12 pin, quick connect type terminal strip per system			
Dimensions:	7.5"h x 8.375"w x 8"d (19 x 21.3 x 20.3cm)			
Weight:	≈15lb (6.8kg)			
Environmental:				
Environmental: Temperature:	32° to 120°F (0° to 50°C)			

2. INSPECTION AND SETUP

The following procedures should allow on-site personnel to correctly install and set up the AM-255 for normal operation. Follow the procedures in the order given. It is recommended that a copy of the Initial Installation Set-Up Checklist (section 2.4.). be filled out after initial installation and whenever the AM-255 is put into service after prolonged storage.

If necessary, consult TSA Systems for assistance in case of unusual site conditions or special requirements.

2.1. INSPECTION

2.1.1. Incoming Inspection:

Immediately inspect the instrument for mechanical damage, scratches, dents or other defects. It should be examined for evidence of concealed, as well as external damage.

2.1.2. Damage Claims;

If the instrument is damaged in transit or fails to meet specifications upon receipt, notify the carrier and TSA Systems immediately. Shipping cartons, packing materials, waybills and other such documentation should be preserved for the carrier's inspection. TSA will assist in providing replacement or repair of the instrument if necessary.

2.1.3. Storage;

If the instrument is to be stored for any length of time, first disconnect power to the instrument and remove and store any batteries separately in a cool place. If batteries are to be stored for any length of time, they should be inspected and charged if necessary at least once a month. Care should always be taken to avoid subjecting the instrument to severe mechanical or environmental shock. The instrument should be stored in a dry, temperature constant location.

2.1.4. Shipping:

Before returning the instrument for any reason, notify TSA Systems of the difficulty encountered, giving the model and serial numbers of the equipment. TSA will furnish specific shipping instructions.

2.2. SET-UP PROCEDURES

An Initial Setup Checklist is included at the end of this section. It is recommended that a copy of this be filled out when the AM-255 is first installed, and whenever it is put into service after prolonged storage.

Input and output connections are located on the AM-255 board. There are two 5 pin terminal strips for alarm input connections from the portal Monitors. There are also two 12 pin terminal strips to provide connections to an external alarm system.

To install the AM-255, use the following procedure.

NOTE: Due to varying site requirements, the cable between the AM-255 and the system to be monitored is not shipped with the AM-255. Any commercial quality, five conductor, 22 ga, signal cable may be used.

2.2.1. Connect the Cables:

Connect the cables from the portal monitor to the alarm input connections. Information on portal monitor alarm connections can be found in the Operating and Service Manual for that monitor. Next loosen the two screws at the bottom corners of the front panel and open the panel.

2.2.2. Connect the Alarm Output Cables:

Connect the alarm output cables as required. The AM-255 will operate properly with or without these connected.

2.2.3. Connect the Positive Battery Cable:

The positive battery cable is disconnected for shipping, and must be connected to the positive battery terminal.

2.2.4. Power:

Plug the power cord into a standard 90 to 250Vac outlet.

2.2.5. Toggle Power Switch:

There is a toggle power switch on the circuit board. This switch must be turned on (away from the connector edge of the board). The green power LED on the front panel will be illuminated to indicate that the battery is charged and connected, and the power switch is in the on position.

2.2.6. Jumper:

There is a jumper on the AM-255 board to select blinking or steady alarm lamps. The board will be jumped for blinking when the unit is shipped. If steady lamps are preferred, move the jumper to the steady position.

2.3. WIRING INSTRUCTIONS

Four strain reliefs are provided in the back panel of the enclosure to accommodate The cables from the portal system(s) and the relay outputs to the site's alarm system. Remove the cap by unscrewing it, remove the plastic washer and rubber weather seal. Feed the cables through the nut, washer, seal, and into the enclosure.

NOTE: There is a nylon tool for the terminal strips supplied with the AM-255. It is shipped on the key ring along with the keys for the key switch.

Connect the wires to the appropriate connections on the terminal strips. The following tables outline the connections.

SYSTEM #1			
INPUT	SIGNALS		
Signal	Terminal Strip, Pin	Signal	
Radiation Alarm	J3-1	Radiation, C	
High Background	J3-2	Radiation, NC	
Low Background	J3-3	Radiation, NO	
Tamper	J3-4*	High Background,	
Common	J3-5	High Background,	
		High Background,	
		Low Background,	
		Low Background, N	
		Low Background, N	
		Tamper, C	
		Tamper, NC	
		Tamper, NO	

SYSTEM #2				
INPUT SIGNALS		RELAY OUTPUTS		
Signal	Terminal Strip, Pin	Signal	Terminal Strip, Pin	
Radiation Alarm	J5-1	Radiation, C	J2-1	
High Background	J5-2	Radiation, NC	J2-2	
Low Background	J5-3	Radiation, NO	J2-3	
Tamper	J5-4*	High Background, C	J2-4	
Common	J5-5	High Background, NC	J2-5	
		High Background, NO	J2-6	
		Low Background, C	J2-7	
		Low Background, NC	J2-8	
		Low Background, NO	J2-9	
		Tamper, C	J2-10	
		Tamper, NC	J2-11	
		Tamper, NO	J2-12	

NOTE: If the tamper input is not used, it must be jumped to the common terminal to prevent constant tamper alarms.

2.4. INITIAL SETUP CHECKLIST

- ____ Initial inspection done
- ____ Cabling properly connected
- ____ AC power available
- ____ READY and POWER lamps go on when unit is plugged in
- ____ ACKNOWLEDGE button operates correctly
- ____ TEST function operates properly
- ____ Alarm test
- ____ All indicator lamps operate properly
- ____ Sonalert sounds when alarm indicated
- ____ Relays setup and operate correctly (if used)

Performed by: _____ Date: _____

3. OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

3.1. CONTROLS AND INDICATORS

The controls and indicators can be made to operate in several different ways. How they operate is controlled by the software installed.

The front panel contains the power LED, ready LED, alarm indicator LEDs, and the acknowledge switch. The power LED is on whenever the system has power. The ready LED shows that the system is clear of alarms and working properly. The alarm indicator LEDs blink when enabled, and indicate the following conditions:

Tamper:

Amber lamp indicates either a fault in the cable between the AM-255 and the portal monitor, or the tamper switch(s) in the pillar are activated. The tamper indication is also used to indicate a low battery condition when the AM-255 is used with TSA's Personnel/Vehicle Monitors.

High Background Alarm:

When the radiation level exceeds the high alarm level that has been programmed into the system, the high background alarm is indicated.

Radiation Alarm:

When the system detects that the radiation level has exceeded the alarm threshold while the portal is occupied, the red radiation alarm lamp will illuminate and the audible alarm will sound.

Low Background Alarm:

The low background alarm indicates that the background counts are below the low background setting in the system. This could be caused by a detector failure or by shielding the pillar. Acknowledge:

This is a momentary contact pushbutton switch which clears the audio and visual indication of alarm conditions.

Key Switch:

The key switch is used to clear alarm lamps or test relays during maintenance.

Test:

A momentary contact pushbutton switch used to test the lamps, LEDs, and Relays.

Sonalert:

The Sonalert provides audible alarm.

3.2. SUMMARY OF ALARM INDICATIONS

SUMMARY OF ALARM INDICATIONS			
High background alarm		flashing amber and audible	
Low background alarm		flashing amber and audible	
RAD alarm		flashing red and audible	
Tamper alarm		flashing amber and audible	
Power fail		power indicator off	

The AM-255 provides both audible and visual alarm indications for radiation alarms, low and high background alarms, and tamper conditions.

NOTE:

Power failure indicator is for the remote alarm console only. If power fails in the pillar and the battery reaches a low condition, the low alarm indicator will come on. Personnel/vehicle monitor's low battery levels are signaled by the tamper alarm.

3.3. OPERATION

During normal operation no operator intervention is needed. If an alarm condition is indicated, the AM-255 will sound an audible alarm and the panel lamps will indicate the nature of the alarm so that proper action may be taken.

Pressing the test button will cause all the alarm lamps to flash, the ready LED to illuminate and the audio alarm to sound. If the key switch is in the normal position, it will energize the relays.

4. THEORY OF OPERATION

The alarm monitor model AM-255 is a battery powered, remote monitor unit used with TSA's pedestrian and vehicle portal monitors. The AM-255 provides both audible and visual alarm indications for radiation alarms, low and high background alarms, and tamper conditions. Parallel relay outputs are provided to permit interfacing with existing alarm systems.

Please reference the wiring/signal flow diagram drawings package provided with the instrument as they are noted in this manual. The Drawings list can be found in the APPENDIX F. Drawings section in this manual.

4.1. UNIT OPERATION

The relays in the portal monitor are continuously monitored by the AM-255. Whenever the relays change state, the AM-255 reads the change and turns on the correct lamp and relay, and sounds the audio alarm. The alarm will follow the system. The green ready LED will go out when the alarm condition occurs, and re-illuminate when the alarm condition clears.

NOTE:

Multiple alarms can occur and more than one alarm lamp be illuminated simultaneously.

The monitor operates from the 12 volt, lead acid battery. If ac power is lost, the battery provides power to permit continued operation without interruption. Should the battery get too low for reliable operation (approximately 10.5 volts), the monitor will turn itself off. Normal operation will resume when the battery has been recharged to approximately 12.5 volts.

4.2. COMPONENTS

4.2.1. AM-255 Board:

The AM-255 Board is the controller board for the system. It receives information from the system, and enables the appropriate lamps, relays, and the Sonalert. All functions of the AM-255 board are controlled by a Programmable Logic Device.

There is also a battery monitoring circuit on the board. If the battery voltage drops below 10.5 Vdc the load disconnect will turn off the system power. When the battery voltage rises to 12.5 Vdc the load disconnect will automatically reconnect the power to the system.

4.2.2. Battery Module:

The battery module consists of a 7A/h, 12 volt sealed lead-acid battery.

4.2.3. Battery Charger:

The battery charger is a universal input, constant voltage output type designed to maintain a full charge on the battery.

5. MAINTENANCE

5.1. MAINTENANCE PROCEDURES

The AM-255 has been designed for continuous use, and once initial installation has been completed, little maintenance is required. Periodic inspection is recommended to insure proper functioning. This should include (but is not limited to):

- checking the alarm lamps and Sonalert with the TEST switch
- performing an alarm test, High, Radiation, Low, Tamper
- visual inspection for loose cables, wires, etc.

It is recommended that a copy of the Performance Verification Checklist (section 5.2.) be filled out whenever the AM-255 is put into service after repair or prolonged storage.

5.2. PERFORMANCE VERIFICATION CHECKLIST

____ Repairs made (if any): list component and type of repair:

____ Cabling properly connected.

____ AC power available.

____ READY and POWER lamp go on when unit is plugged in.

____ ACKNOWLEDGE button operates correctly.

____ TEST function operates properly.

____ Alarm test.

____ All indicator lamps operate properly.

____ Sonalert sounds when radiation alarm indicated.

____ Relay's set up and operate correctly (if used).

Performed by: _____ Date: _____

6. TROUBLESHOOTING

This guide is designed so that on-site personnel can service the AM-255 and effect necessary minor repairs. It covers procedures and parts down to the board level. Any other problems should be referred to factory authorized service personnel. Unauthorized repair voids warranty.

When repairs are completed and the unit returned to operation, a copy of the Performance Verification Checklist (section 5.2.) should be filled out and filed for future reference.

6.1. COMPONENT ACCESS

6.1.1. AM-255 Controller Board:

The AM-255 Controller board is mounted on standoffs inside the lid of the enclosure. To access it, open the front panel by removing the two screws holding it in place. Unplug the twelve pin Molex connector, and disconnect the wires to the terminal stripes. Remove the four phillips screws holding the AM-255 board, and lift the board out. To reinstall, replace the board on the standoffs using the four phillips screws, reconnect the wires, and Molex connector. Close the front panel and replace the two screws.

6.1.2. Battery:

There is a metal bracket that retains the battery and charger. Remove the two screws from the bracket and remove it. The battery charger is mounted to the Battery with two velcro strips. Detach the battery charger from the battery by pulling it to unhook the velcro. Unplug the wires going to the battery and pull it off the velcro strips that hold it to the enclosure.

6.1.3. Battery Charger:

The Battery Charger is wired directly into Molex connector to the AM-255 board. To disconnect, the Molex pins must be removed from the housing by inserting a small screwdriver or sharp pointed object into the slots in the housing and pressing down, while pulling gently on the wire. The ac input plugs into the charger with a standard IEC connector. To reinstall the battery charger insert the pins into the Molex housing, and reconnect the ac input to the IEC connector.

6.1.4. Lamps:

The Lamps are soldered to the circuit board.

6.2. TROUBLESHOOTING GUIDE

NOTE:

Some steps will require tools, supplies, DMM, and possibly an oscilloscope. These steps should only be performed by qualified service personnel.

Perform a physical inspection of the unit, looking for faulty or broken wiring, foreign material, broken or damaged components, and loose connections. Proceed by checking the individual assemblies as follows:

6.2.1. Battery and Charger:

If the unit is not operating at all and the green power LED is off, use the following steps to check the battery and charger. Refer to Drawing 3. "Controller Board" (Appendix F.)

Open the front panel and disconnect the positive lead to the battery. Measure the voltage across the battery with a meter; it should be at least 12.4 volts. If the voltage is low or not present then the battery must be charged or replaced.

NOTE:

Do not go to step 2 until the battery voltage is 12.4 or greater.

To check the charger, disconnect the positive terminal from the battery and J1 from the AM-255 circuit board. Measure the voltage from between the black and red battery wires. It should be at least 13.5 volts. If it is not then the charger must be replaced.

NOTE:

Do not go on to the next step until the charger is working correctly. Battery voltage must be at least 12.5 Vdc for the unit to turn on.

6.3. TROUBLESHOOTING

If the unit is totally inoperative, verify that the unit is receiving power throughout the system. Refer to "Controller Board" Drawing 3 (Appendix F.) for the following procedure.

6.3.1. AM-255 Controller Board:

If the unit has power but still does not operate, test the power to the controller board. Connect the negative lead of the DVM to TP1 and the positive lead to TP2. The power should be 5 ± 0.1 Vdc.

APPENDIX

A. WARRANTY

STANDARD WARRANTY FOR TSA SYSTEMS INSTRUMENTS

TSA Systems, Ltd., warrants this instrument to be free from defects in workmanship and materials for a period of twelve months from the date of shipment, provided that the equipment has been used in a proper manner and not subjected to abuse. At TSA's option, repairs or replacements will be made on in-warranty instruments without charge at the TSA factory. Warranty of sub-systems made by other manufacturers will be extended to TSA customers only to the extent of the manufacturer's liability to TSA. TSA reserves the right to modify the design of its product without incurring responsibility for modification of previously manufactured units. Since installation conditions are beyond the company's control, TSA does not assume any risks or liabilities associated with methods of installation or with installation results.

Every effort is made to keep the manuals up to date and accurate. However, because TSA Systems is constantly improving and upgrading the product line, TSA can make no guarantee as to the content of current manuals. No obligations are assumed for notice of change or future manufacture of these instruments.

Manufactured by

TSA SYSTEMS, LTD. 14320 LONGS PEAK COURT LONGMONT, COLORADO 80504 970.535.9949 FAX: 800.508.0083

B. GLOSSARY

ADC: Analog to Digital Converter, is an integrated circuit that converts an analog signal into a binary number that can be used by the microprocessor.

CPS or cps: Counts Per Second

High Background Alarm/Fault: The condition that occurs if the counts exceed the programmed high background level. This condition prevents further operation until the problem is corrected. Normally set in cps.

LLD: The Lower Level Discriminator provides a threshold, usually adjustable, that determines the lowest signal level that will be accepted as a nuclear pulse by the system's electronics. Some systems have both upper and lower level discriminators that can be used to set a discriminator window. The discriminator window can be used to effectively reduce the background counts, and increase system sensitivity to certain isotopes. Also see ULD.

Low Background Alarm/Fault: The condition that occurs if the counts fall below the programmed high background level. This condition prevents further operation until the problem is corrected. Normally set in cps.

POST: Power On Self Test

Rolling Background: This is the background accumulation method used in most of TSA's instruments. Background accumulation is done in ten separate buffers, each buffer represents 1/10 of the total background time. As each buffer is filled, the background is updated. This results in a background update at background time/10. Initial background accumulation requires the full background time.

Standard Background: Standard background requires the full background time for the initial background and updates.

ULD: The Upper Level Discriminator provides a threshold, usually adjustable, that determines the highest signal level that will be accepted as a nuclear pulse by the system's electronics. Also see LLD.

C. FORMULAS

The following formulas are used in various systems manufactured by TSA Systems, Ltd. They are provided to assist in verifying system operation and to give our customers a better understanding of how the systems operate

C.1. ACTIVITY FROM COUNTS

		Activity = Activity in nCi
$Activity = \frac{N}{Eff^* 37}$	Where:	Eff = Decimal efficiency (i.e. $10\% = 0.1$.)
Eff * 37		N = Net counts per second (cps – background cps)

C.2. EFFICIENCY

$E = \frac{N}{37 * activity}$	Where:	N = cps with source – background cps
	where.	activity = test source activity in nCi

C.3. N*SIGMA ALARM LEVEL

This formula calculates the minimum activity, in disintegrations per minute, that can be reliably detected under a given set of operational conditions.

		bkg = Background counts
Alarm Level = $(N*\sqrt{bkg}) + bkg$	Where:	Sigma = 1bkg
		N = N*Sigma value

C.4. RELIABLE DETECTABLE ACTIVITY (RDA) FORMULA

This formula calculates the minimum activity, in disintegrations per minute, that can be reliably detected under a given set of operational conditions.

$$F = \left[\frac{CON + \sqrt{CON^2 + 4(FA\sqrt{BKG} + BKG)}}{2}\right]^2$$

$$F = \left[\frac{CON + \sqrt{CON^2 + 4(FA\sqrt{BKG} + BKG)}}{2}\right]^2$$

$$G = \frac{F - BKG}{CT}$$

$$F = false alarm level in cps$$

$$FA = false alarm sigma$$

$$G = intermediate variance$$

$$RDA = \frac{2200 * G}{37 * E}$$

$$RDA = \frac{2200 * G}{37 * E}$$

$$RDA = \frac{2200 * G}{37 * E}$$

C.5. SIGNAL TO BACKGROUND RATIO

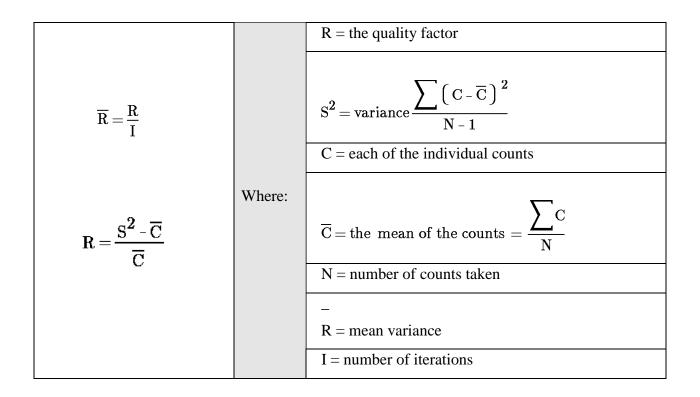
The following formula is helpful is determining the optimum discriminator settings. Always perform a variance test at the final setting of the lower-level discriminator to ensure that system noise is not being introduced into the amplifier stage.

$Q = \frac{S^2}{B}$	Where:	Q = Quality factorS = Net signal (count with source - background)B = Background countB = Background count
Higher values of Q result in better sensitivity		

C.6. VARIANCE

The variance analyzer mode is used to check whether the counts seen by the controller are actually from the proper distribution. If the distribution approaches normal, the resulting number will approach 0. Any significant deviation from the normal distribution will result in a larger number.

The two most common problems resulting in variance failure are light leaks in the detectors, and periodic noise in the electronics. Periodic noise will result in a number of about 1, a light leak will usually result in a number larger than 2. The number displayed during a variance test is the absolute value of the average of a number of these tests, with one test being performed every nn seconds. The data is valid after three iterations of nn seconds. The pass/fail criteria varies from unit to unit and is included in the variance section of the manual on most units.



D. CONFIGURATION TRACKING	SHEET
TSA MODEL NUMBER:	SERIAL NUMBER:
SOFTWARE VERSION:	DATE RECEIVED:
OPTIONS AND ACCESSORIES:	
SYSTE	EM MODIFICATIONS
MODIFICATION:	
	DATE:
INSTALLED BY: MODIFICATION:	DATE:
INSTALLED BY:	
MODIFICATION:	
INSTALLED BY:	DATE:

E. PARTS

E.1. RECOMMENDED SPARE PARTS

A complete list of spare parts is available by contacting TSA Systems, Ltd.

E.2. SPARE PARTS ORDERING INFORMATION

To facilitate the processing of spare parts orders the following information is required.

- Product Number
- Product Serial Number
- TSA Stock number
- Part description (from parts list included with the instrument)

When ordering programmed proms, the software version is required. This can be found on the prom label.

NOTE:

Model number suffixes are generally not included in the text of the manual, however, the suffixes in the PARTS LISTS must be included on orders for spare parts.

For Assistance Call:

TSA SYSTEMS, LTD. 14320 LONGS PEAK COURT LONGMONT,COLORADO 80504 970.535.9949 FAX: 800.508.0083

F. DRAWINGS

Please reference the drawings package provided with the instrument to view the following:

AM-255 Pictorial View	1
AM-255 Pictorial View	2
AM-255 Controller Board	3

For Assistance Call: TSA SYSTEMS, LTD. 14320 LONGS PEAK COURT LONGMONT, COLORADO 80504 970.535.9949 • FAX: 800.508.0083